



NEWS RELEASE

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Man Charged With Killing Former Girlfriend in Hollywood Hills

A Playa del Rey man was charged today with killing his ex-girlfriend by allegedly throwing her over a balcony at her Hollywood Hills apartment over the weekend, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Gareth Pursehouse (dob 7/4/78) was charged in case BA485380 with one count each of murder and first-degree residential burglary with the special circumstance allegation of lying in wait, making him eligible for the death penalty. Arraignment is scheduled for Thursday in Department 30 of the Foltz Criminal Justice Center.

Deputy District Attorneys Victor Avila of the Major Crimes Division and R.J. Dreiling of the Family Violence Division are prosecuting the case.

Shortly after 1 a.m. on February 15, Pursehouse is accused of murdering 38-year-old Amie Harwick in the 2000 block of Mound Street. When police arrived, they found the victim on the ground below a balcony.

She was taken to a hospital where she died.

The defendant was initially arrested and posted \$2 million bond. He was re-arrested today on a no bail warrant.

The defendant faces the death penalty or life in prison without the possibility of parole if convicted as charged. A decision on whether to seek capital punishment will be made at a later date.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' right